

District 10 Community Council Board Meeting Historic Street Car Station 1224 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55108 Tuesday, March 19, 2019 7:00 PM MINUTES

I. Call to order

Chair Ryan Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

II. Board introductions

- Present: Ryan Flynn, Mike Ireland, Tim Post, Amy Perna, Thomas Coburn, Cody
 Zwiefelhofer, Annie Huidekoper, Alexis Baker, Rebecca Calvo, Olivia Mulvey Morawiecki,
 Anne Hartman, Adina Florea Weseman, Laura Jo Busian
- Absent: Maggie Zimmerman, Melissa Liu, Haley Fruen, Cari Ness Nesje
- Staff: Michael Kuchta

III. Review, amend agenda:

MOTION: Approve the agenda (Zwiefelhofer/Busian)

IV. Community Section

- A. Special presentations:
- Update on the Schiffman Fountain restoration from Eric Thompson with the City of St. Paul
- Cecelia Caro from Sprockets offered information on what the program is doing to provide more after school and summer learning opportunities to students in St. Paul.
- B. Board chair report: Ryan Flynn reminded everyone that elections are coming up in April. An audience member asked about a recent D10 vote to set the age to vote in D10 elections and serve on the board at 16. Ryan discussed the reasons behind the decision.
- C. Treasurer's report: Anne Hartman says D10's finances are on track. This is Anne's last meeting as treasurer.
- D. Other community concerns: None

V. Board Business Section

A. Minutes and financial reports:

MOTION: Approve February 2019 meeting minutes and financial report. Passes

B. Officers' report: Ryan Flynn reported the latest on the Twin Cities German Immersion School, planned fundraising efforts by D10, the D10 community survey, and improvements being made to the organics recycling site. The secretary failed to take full and adequate notes on the chair's report because he was dealing with a malfunctioning web-streaming camera, but details are in the agenda packet.

MOTION: The Como Community Council enters into a lease for a Xerox C405 color copier through MOTG (Minnesota Office Technology Group). The lease is \$63.87/month for 36 months, beginning July 28, 2019. The lease covers 1,500 B&W copies, and 150 color copies, per month, averaged quarterly. Excess charges are 1.3 cents for B&W, 10 cents for color. (Huidekoper/Baker) passes

MOTION: The Como Community Council enters into a contract with Nexus Community Partners to provide training to board members, staff, and key volunteers, as outlined in the attachment. (Ireland/Calvo) passes

C. Committee updates

Environment Mike Ireland reports that he's found a volunteer to lead the Como Lake clean up. The effort has received a \$2,420 grant. The birding survey is beginning, birders can use an app to report what they spot, ask Mike or Michael for help if you're interested in taking part. A pollinator friendly garden tour is being considered for the neighborhood. The Como Community Seed Library seed/garden tool exchange is coming up in May. The Capitol Watershed District is putting together its plan for Como Lake and is seeking online input until April 4. The district is sending out a postcard with a link to the plan. Tim's update on Pathway committee: The committee is getting together soon to discuss final recommendations for its report. Committee members will also work to assess the condition of current paths in the park. The committee hopes to wrap up its work by the end of April.

Land use Cody Zwiefelhofer is sitting in for Maggie Zimmerman. A neighborhood meeting was held for a "greening" effort on Wynne Ave.; some agreements were made, they're included in the board packet. Higher Ground Academy is still working on its site plan. The Como/Front/Dale advisory committee met recently and discussed funding for projects in the area. One that is nearly ready to go is a playground at a daycare on the eastern side of the intersection. TCGIS would like to apply for a STAR Grant so the school can build a seven-foot-tall/two-foot thick stone wall to help prevent noise issues in the neighborhood. The amount being asked for is \$35,000 and TCGIS would put up matching funds for the project.

ACTION ITEM: The District 10 Como Community Council supports the STAR Grant application from TCGIS to build a stone gabion fence along the eastern property line. Passes

Neighborhood Olivia Mulvey Morawiecki reports the committee recently heard details of a new PA system that Como Park Senior High would like to install at its athletics field, along with a concession stand the following year. The additions would require variance that would likely be steered toward Land Use. The committee continues to discuss the possibility of a food shelf in the Como neighborhood.

D. Staff report

Michael says the first two Sunday series events are coming up the next two Sundays. Two more coming up in April and May. Michael is working with the city to fine tune the organics site by reorienting its location. D10 and other councils are working with St. Paul council member Mitra Nelson on a renters' summer for Thursday April 18 at Hamline University.

E. New business

Ryan Flynn says D10 has \$3,495 in funding unallocated for community engagement efforts. Ryan recommends using \$2,400 to cover additional hours for the organizers position (130 hours at \$17 an hour). A portion of the funding could also be used for D10's new website.

MOTION: Of the \$3,495 in unallocated funding, \$2,400 will be allocated for the community organizer position, \$500 allocated for website work, and the remainder will be used for renter outreach and food shelf funding. (Ireland/Morawiecki) passes

MOTION: The D10 chair send a thank you letter to the city of St. Paul, the Cedarwoods Foundation and the Ray and Florence Berglund Foundation for their work in renovating the Schiffman fountain. (passes)

VI. Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm by Ryan Flynn.

Respectively submitted by Tim Post. These minutes are not official until approved.

Como Community Council: Officers Meeting

April 10, 2019 (6:30 p.m. Delicata)

Present: Ryan Flynn (chair), Tim Post (secretary), Michael Kuchta (staff)

Events

Group reviewed D10-affiliated events coming up in next several months. Michael created fliers for election, April Sunday Series events, and renter forum, and distributed them to four large rental communities. Amy Perna is working to get Thrivent to pay for ice cream at the Ice Cream Social. Environment is working with Eureka Recycling to get backyard compost barrels at a steep discount, to be available for purchase at May 5 Sunday Series event. We will purchase 25 barrels for \$375 and sell them for \$30 each; D10 breaks even if we sell half of them. Schiffman Fountain dedication is likely to be pushed back into June.

Community

- Twin Cities German Immersion School. City rejected the citizen's petition for an
 environmental review, saying it is not mandated or necessary. That clears hurdle,
 allowing city council to decide on local historic designation and on D10 and Save
 Historic St. Andrew's appeals of Planning Commission actions. No timetable is set
 yet.
- **Community garden.** 4 gardeners did not renew. There is a waiting list of 9, so it is likely all plots will be taken. Garden coordinator Barbara Clark is contacting all parties to determine plots, etc.

Communication

• **Website rebuild.** The work group created at the January meeting will recommend contracting with web developer Aeronautic Vigilante for \$2,560. The group's action item will suggest funding sources beyond the \$1,600 allocated in the COPP grant.

Financials

- **Updated 2019 budget.** We need to finalize the budget spreadsheet to reflect allocations of additional city funding and shifts in spending timetables for Innovation Fund allocations.
- In-house financial review. Amy will lead a board work group to conduct the biennial review required in the bylaws. Michael has pulled together files from 2017 and 2018.
- Extension of 2018 Innovation Fund. Michael has requested extension of our Innovation Fund contract, which now is scheduled to expire May 31. Because of difficulties in hiring organizer, funds allocated to pay that salary will not be spent in time. It is possible training allocation will come in under budget as well.

Organizational Business

• **Organizer position.** In coordination with District 12, Ryan, Amy, and Michael have interviewed four candidates. Both district councils agree on the best candidate. District 12 will make the formal offer; it is hoped the candidate will accept in time for D10 board to approve the hiring on April 16.

- **Equity training.** Board training with Nexus is scheduled for Thursday evenings May 2, 16 and 30 from 6-9 p.m., with dinner from 5-6. Two trainings will be at Streetcar Station; one will be at John's Pizza Café. Innovation Fund will not pay for food, so D6 and D10 have to cover that cost separately. Michael and Amy have been working with Strategic Diversity Initiatives to try to schedule a community presentation on Advancing Racial Equity. Finding mutually available dates and times is proving to be a challenge.
- **Community survey summary.** Ryan and Amy have prepared a summary of results from the community survey. Ryan will present it at the annual meeting while ballots are being counted.
- **April elections.** 15 candidates have filed for the 10 seats up for election. There are competitive races in Sub-districts 1, 2 and 3, and for the at-large positions. The special election for Treasurer will be first. Ryan has arranged for outgoing board members to count ballots. Michael will have rules ready for preferential voting, in case community members seek that option. Michael did investigate the possibility of transferring the annual meeting to the pavilion, but it will still be undergoing renovation on April 16.
- **Live-streaming**. Ryan has drafted policies for live-streaming of D10 meetings and other events, oversight of the process, and retention of recordings. He will get feedback from officers and draft an action item. Tim will prepare a how-to guide for future use once he leaves.

Board Meeting (April 16)

- Agenda Items:
 - Special election for Treasurer
 - Annual elections
 - Action Items:
 - Como HS sound level variance (Land Use)
 - Website contract (Rebecca Calvo, Mike Ireland, Cody Ziefelhofer)
 - Organizer (Ryan)
 - Live-streaming policies (Ryan)

Staff Report

- Michael gave updates on plans for the Como Ave. Bike Trail, on the installation of a Como Community Council sign outside the Streetcar Station, on discussions with Parks and Recreation and the County to relocate the organics recycling site, and on the upcoming Parks and Recreation Commission agenda.
- Once the new board is elected, Ryan and Michael will discuss with leadership who should testify before the city council on District 10's Planning Commission appeal.
- Michael noted that the way D10 committee meetings are staggered, it makes it difficult for staff to schedule extended vacations without missing meetings. Once new committee chairs are in place, he will raise the possibility of shifting meeting dates.

District 10 Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2019 at 7 pm

Present: Dawn Lamm, Susan Jane Chaney, Thomas Coburn, Mike Ireland, Michael Kuchta, Bill Neiber, Adena Weseman, Teri Alberico,

STANDARD ITEMS

- Committee member and guest introductions
- · Review of previous meeting minutes and the agenda
- District 10 board meeting summary

PRESENTATIONS

None

INITIATIVES AND UPDATES

• CRWD's Como Lake Management Plan

The final public advisory meeting will be this Thursday, March 28, at 6 pm at their new location (595 Aldine Street, St. Paul 55104). Online comments can be submitted through April 4

There have been 20 or so "clicks" to the information page from the D10 site. Deadline for input is April 4th.

- Links:

Como Lake Management Plan Draft

Como Lake Management Plan web site

Como Lake Management Plan Story Map

- **2019 Como Connect** it will be held in conjunction with the ice cream social on July 12 Sarah Sanders will be our lead organizer this year
- Como Lake Cleanup planning awarded \$2,420 from the CRWD Partnership Grant -Erin Spry

Summary from last time – 3-4 times per year, starting June 1st, then Monthly/every other month through October/November. June, August, October, maybe November?? Event will be advertised in the news blast and via facebook. Perhaps a link to a spreadsheet where they enter an email for reminders.

Pollinator friendly garden tour - Erin, Mike M. and Dawn

July 13th may or may not be the date of the art festival at the pavilion, which could bring a synergy element.

We hope to have companion exhibits at each, or at least some, of the sites – junk mail flower folding, make and take newspaper pots, Front Ave Pottery with garden elements.

There will be a calendar comparison meeting right after this meeting.

• Como Community Seed Library spring event – Dawn

Master Gardeners, Teri as Master Composter, Zero Waste St Paul, Mississippi Market Snacks are a possibility, 5 easy direct sow seeds.

Thank you token will be awarded to volunteers.

- --Erin will reach out to the NJHS students to try to get 6-9 students who may want to work in shifts; maybe set up, tear down, seed your dreams project.
- Washington, D.C. Enacts a Phaseout of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers Cari <u>The Atlantic article</u>
- Bethel Lutheran Church's community gardens (670 W. Wheelock Pkwy) Of their 10 plots (approximately 3'x7'), only 3 remain unclaimed for the year. Organic compost and manure have been added. If you are interested, please email Rich Gall (richardegall@gmail.com)

Not widely advertised.

Sunday Series update – Michael

- New date for the Mosquito Control session: April 28th
- Emergency Prep, March 31st
- Citizen Science, April 14th This event will also feature CWOC connections for more citizen science. So far, Bell Museum is not interested.
- Recycling isn't what it used to be, May 5th. Investigating marketing forces in the recycling loop, new recycling technology and practices, organics recycling, and county representatives around recycling. Sites are limited, Good Acre is available, but the cost is \$100 per hour. We may also be able to get cheaper compost bins from Eureka; Teri will investigate. They may be only \$25, and perhaps Eureka can deliver to the site.
- Adopt-a-Drain challenge campaign strategy Need help to lead this until August 1

No change reported since last month (file last updated December 11)

	0 1	Current	November
0	Como	116	Same
0	Hamline Midway	43	40
0	Mac/Groveland	12	11
0	Union Park	11	0
0	Highland	16	Same
0	St. Anthony Park	5	Same

Adena Weseman will not be running for her current position again. In addition to missing her presence, in general, we will now need someone to spearhead this project. Any interested parties should contact Mike.

St. Paul Citywide Spring Cleanup - April 27

- Speedway will host at the Como Lake site but may need assistance
- Who will assist and cover the Environmental committee/compost site table?

We are in need of Environmental Committee members to host table/s. Mike can be there, Erin D may also, pending a current conflict. We will discuss at the next meeting (April 24)

Organic Compost Site – Michael

Ramsey county is looking at an improvement to the <u>current site</u> (see link to similar site in St Anthony Villiage, as we are a pilot site. Potential Issues:

Is the site part of the Beulah Lane Right of Way?

Do we need to replace the parkland property, in kind?

Perhaps the powers that be will agree that the site is not removal or diversion of park property, but simply a different use.

The current site is still filling twice per week. The bags are sporadic in how long they last, but the new dispenser seems to be working well.

- Committee response to the Citywide Garbage Service Thomas and Teri
- Sky Rise Bronze Bee sculpture sign Dawn
- Miscellaneous Stuff
 - Reaching outside the Environmental to committee for community involvement
 - Lexington Ave. Boulevard Beautification Project update
 - 2019 committee budget

Compost site \$650
Wayfinding \$220
Printing \$1,000
Tech support/ \$100
& research
Partner Grant \$2,400

Partner Grant \$2,400 Discretionary \$400

2018 committee initiatives and project planning

Do we want to continue to work on these?

Encourage replacement of pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals in lawn and garden maintenance: Through awareness and education, advocate a reduction of environmentally harmful pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers and promote ecologically friendly alternatives.

Teri an Eric

Initiate improved recycling options in parks and other public spaces: Work with Parks and Rec and other organizations to improve community and visitor awareness and correct participation in recycling in parks and public spaces through education and process improvements.

Eric, Teri and Thomas

Explore options to fight the growing chloride threat to Como Lake: Work with the golf course management, Parks and Rec and the CRWD to improve water conservation and filtration.

Gordy and Dawn

Pursue improved leaf-clearing initiatives to fight the growing nutrient threat to Como Lake: Leaf sweeping, collection and street sweeping in the fall to optimize the timing, method and prioritization within D10.

Andrew, Adina and Mike

- Requested inclusion in the CRWD Como Lake Management Plan and the CRWD Partner grant
- Obtain watershed sub-district boundaries
- Goal is to prepare a proposal this winter and partner with the CRWD

COMMUNITY SECTION – a time for anyone's input or concerns

PARTNER UPDATES

• 2019 Bird Survey - Mike McDonald

Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom - Teri Heyer and Susan Jane Cheney

They have the stewards that they were needing.

CWOC had a meeting on Saturday, the survey walk is coming on April 26th – spring ephemerals.

Birds in May 11th 8 am

Trees and Shrubs June 13th, 5pm with Tim Morgan

Mammals, Amphibians and Reptiles in June 22nd 8:30 am

Insects/Butterflies, July 18th 6 pm

Spiders/Invertebrates (snails/slugs) August 10, 8:30 am

Also, a planting May 13th 5:30-7:30 – the plants purchased last fall. Small group, Environmental Committee is invited, tools are provided.

If interested in any of these, contact Teri Heyer

- · Como Park Pathways subcommittee Teri, Andrew and Michael
- The Mapping Tool (comopark.info) Andrew Gustin
- · Churchill Gardens Erin
- Como Organic Compost Subcommittee Michael
- Capitol Region Watershed District Mike MacDonald
 - MPCA 319 Small Watersheds Focus Grant
- Como Active Citizen Network Janna Caywood
- Como Lake Pollinator Garden Angie Sechler
- Como Community Seed Library Dawn Lamm
- Clean Energy Resource Team Bill Devroy
- Master composter/recycling program Teri Alberico
- Midtown Greenway Mike Ireland
- Transition Twin Cities leveraging resources and people

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 27; 9 - 11:30 am
 May 17 weekend
 St. Paul Citywide Spring Cleanup
 D10 Neighborhood Garage Sale

May 18 or 19 Como Community Seed Library "Seed Your Dreams"

July 12
 D10 Ice Cream Social with Como Connect

3/3, 6/9, 9/8, and 12/1 Streetcar station yoga
Through March 2020 Como Bird Survey

ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: April 24 at 7 pm at the streetcar station

<u>District 10 Como Community Council Land Use Committee Minutes</u> – 4/3/2019

1. Call to order: 7:05pm

Present: Maggie, Rebecca, Annie, Cody, Neighbors

- 2. Amend/Adopt Agenda Approved
- 3. Land Use Voting Procedures Reminders

4. New Business

- O Como Senior High Athletic Field Sound Variance Request: Jonah Field
 - ◆ Looking for a variance for sound for varsity and soccer stadium matches. No other sports use that field, and don't want excessive sound pollution by including JV or under events.
 - Upgraded in 2017 to a new turf field; had limited options
 - ◆ Talked about Tier 1 vs. Tier 2 Facilities (as determined by St. Paul):
 - Tier 1 has permanent press box, permanent concession stand, built in audio system, two full sets of bleachers, bathrooms with running water, full track amenities.
 - ◆ Harding High School's field has such Tier 1 facilities.
 - Tier 2 must rent scissor lift to record games, concession tent, portable scoreboard and audio systems, limited seatings, porta potties only.
 - ◆ The goal is to move the athletic program to a Tier-1 designation.
 - School already has the speakers, but they only used them on certain days where they had variances previously. They just want to affix them permanently and use them for these games.
 - Never had a varsity football game at the school until last fall
 - How will sound be used at CPHS athletic events? Player introductions, announcements of goals, scores, substitutions; halftime events (recognition of parents, etc); special event speakers could address crowd (Mayor's Cup, Homecoming)
 - This variance would be for sound variance on certain dates; school would not need to do individual date applications.
 - Dates would need to be submitted in advance, but there may be ranges in case a game is postponed due to inclement weather.
 - Variance is needed if you go above 65db before 10pm; cheering is loudest part of full sound, so that's not going away, only difference in sound is going to be the sound board.
 - Questions:

- Question about whether this would be just used for sports or for other academic stuff like graduations. So the question isn't necessarily when but how much, and have a way to do community outreach to make sure everyone's on the same page.
- There are precedents for other stadiums with speaker systems around the area; Concordia, Hamline U are a couple examples.
- Speakers would likely be hung from the lights so they could be pointed at the field and not towards neighbors
- ◆ **Motion**: District 10 Como Community Council supports Como Senior High's request for an amplified sound variance during home varsity sporting events. (Maggie, Rebecca) passes unanimously

5. Ongoing Business

Wynne Ave/HPA

- ◆ Following up with someone from St. Paul Forestry department on how to get some vegetation established in the area to help alleviate some of the concerns around lost vegetations
- HPA was supposed to turn off overnight lights, and there are still deliveries before 6am, an d parking is still a problem; Mr. Yang from HPA said they were hoping to get more work done on implementing these changes during the spring break week (week of April 1). Hopefully good news to report in May!

Higher Ground Academy site plan

- Adjustment to HGA site plan that allows them to rework parking spaces so the easement as referenced in previous meetings (parking easement and whether they would be grandfathered into it) will no longer be necessary
- Keeping eyes on the bus/car traffic.

Como/Front/Dale

- Met in late March, reviewed findings from recent U of M traffic study and market study performed in 2017.
- Expressed interest in getting new businesses in the area that matched the profile of the market study, including grocery store, coffee shop, additional restaurants and local businesses
- Established priorities and things to do for the group moving forward, including establishing an identity for the area as well as recruiting businesses and changes to improve experience for pedestrians and people that live in the area to increase the livability of this intersection

Sholom Home

 David Garzon (sic) said ownership group is negotiating with interested lender, and they want to know if they can put siding on the brick on outside; still no formal request and what their motivations are with the siding. There are still a number of things that need to be worked out logistically before any more progress is made.

TCGIS EAW

- City says they're still working on materials for EAW and they said they are fairly close to a decision on what's needed. Decision is due April 9.
- Context: State law says city of St. Paul has to determine if they need to do one or if they decide they don't need to do, why they don't need to do it.
- EAW stops all permitting and building so that's all in a holding pattern as well.

Lexington Cozy's Pub/Pavilion Crossing construction

- Unable to get a contractor at end of season last year to do the project at end of fall.
- Current status: bids are out, have not chosen a contractor yet; estimate is that project will be complete before Memorial Day.

Spring Café

- Taken over by Lancer; previous owner sold all seasonal locations
- Met with Tony Arvidson, regional Lancer manager. Current intention is to maintain popular items from Spring Cafe
- Current focus is to not make any big moves until pulse of community is determined.
- Not sure when they will open this year yet.
- Will offer weekend brunch with Bloody Mary bar; keeping both sitdown and grab and go options. Kayaks, bikes, paddle boards will still remain; sweet science will no longer remain, but Lancer intends to run that as an ice cream window
- One change will be to use the third-floor space for events and banquets; Lancer may be equipped to handle that due to being a caterer.

6. Staff Report

Not Applicable; Michael is on vacation

7. Coming events

- April Board Meeting April 16th @ 7pm Streetcar Station
- Next Land Use Meeting May 1st @ 7pm Streetcar Station

8. **Adjourn** *8:20pm*

District 10 Como Community Council Neighborhood Relations, Safety, and Outreach

COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday April 2, 2019 at 7:00 PM Como Streetcar Station

ADMINISTRATIVE
Minute Recorder (Alexis Baker)

OPENING

Call to order (7:03 PM)
Introductions (no quorum)
Quorum reached (7:08 PM)
No additions to agenda
Board meeting review skipped
Updates to Board Meeting covered at end of meeting

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Ice Cream Social Update
 - a. Sarah R. Sanders is Como Connect leader. Mike I. provided history of event. Organization of event discussed, including tables, overlap of organizations present at ice cream social and Como Connect - no need to duplicate, Bill has master list of vendors. Social media can be leveraged. Other Ideas for event include biking safety, photo booth, Junior Honors, Tool Library, OUtdoor Classroom, Transition Town, Neighborhood Works, Int'l Institute, Think Small, Frogtown Farmers. Elected officials will be invited to attend, but no campaigning.
 - b. Como Connect planning meeting on 4/23 at 7p at Sarah's house 1388 Almond St.
 - c. Bubble and facepainting booked. Also, Shaekspeare in the Park, band Incredible Shrinking Men, chairs and tables reserved. Michael K. to connect with Lancer for ice cream and non-dairy treats.
- B. Schiffman Fountain Celebration
 - a. Olivia M. to reach out to Eric from City of St. Paul to coordinate with Lancer.
- C. Safety Flags
 - a. Extras have arrived, are stored in Streetcar office. People can take to replace tubes where low.
 - b. Flag holders (tubes) reinstalled at Nagasaki, Courtland, and Lexington.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Recent Events Review No update.
- B. Welcome Kit No update.
- C. Food Shelf Keystone to come to May 7th meeting to discuss; members encouraged to come with questions.
- D. Long-term initiatives
 - a. Equity Training: May 2, 16, and 30 from 6p-9p; dinner from 5p-6p

- b. No update on The Next Generation. Discussed recent community concerns about new age limit to run and vote.
- E. Community Concerns:
 - a. Egg Drop on 4/13 at Langford Park
 - b. Neighborhood Clean-Up on 4/27 9a-11:30a
 - c. Como Lake Clean Up TBD in May 2019
 - d. Lime Bike does not have tricycles

NEXT MEETING Tuesday May 7, 2019 Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM